

Chicopee Historical Commission Voting Record and Minutes

The Historical Commission of the City of Chicopee public hearing for Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 4:00 PM, in person and via zoom.

The meeting was brought to order at 4:00 PM

Historical Commission Attendance:

Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Joshua Clark, Chair	X		
Linda Menard-Mruk, Vice Chair			X
Raymond Hoess-Brooks			X
Patricia Ferreira			X
Dave Robison	X		
Louise Osetek	X		
Timothy Wagner	X		

Planning Staff Attendance:

Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Lee Pouliot, Director			X
James Dawson, Development Manager	X		
Patrick Mckenna, Asst. Planner			X
Nathan Moreau, Assoc. Planner			X

Item 1: Bylaws and Historical Commission Rules and Regulations – Josh to present draft of Commission Bylaws and Rules and Regulations based on recommendations by Commissioners since the review on June 8, 2021.

Notes: Chairman Joshua Clark presented the amended Bylaws to the Commission.

- Article 6: Applicants for letters of support must provide an update after 1 month.
- Article 10: Strike out “take precedence” and insert “be considered official actions by the City of Chicopee to preserve its history.”
- Article 13: Amended to say that rules are sent to the City Law Department for approval.
- Article 14: Bi-annual review of rules.
 - Further amended to say “in odd numbered years”
- Article 13 and 14 swapped places

Motion to send the proposed rules to the City Law Department for review was made by Dave Robison and seconded by Louise Osetek. Vote was 4 to 0 in favor.

Member	Approve	Deny	Abstain
Joshua Clark, Chair	X		
David Robison	X		
Louise Osetek	X		
Timothy Wagner	X		

Item 2: Discussion/New Business:

Dave Gaby of 219 School Street contacted the Planning Department. He is planning on attending the Historical Commission meeting on October 12, 2021 to discuss restoration work being planned at 219 School Street and any possible funding options.

Notes: Staff read the letter from Dave Gaby, mentioned Dave’s interest in funding/grants. Chairman Clark said no city funding is possible right now. Commissioner Osetek asked if this was a historical property. Chairman Clark said this is the “Henry Gates” house that was built in 1845. House may also be on the National Historic Register; funding might be available.

Commissioner Osetek asked if Mr. Gaby will have plans for renovations with him at the next meeting; Staff was unsure what Mr. Gaby planned on bringing to the meeting. The commission agrees that a lot of work needs to be done to the property.

Patricia Ferreira letter of resignation.

Notes: Chairman Clark read the letter to the commission. Staff noted the website would be updated to reflect an opening on the Commission.

Records from the School Committee

Notes: Chairman Clark was notified of old School Committee records that were transferred to the new administration building and they were reportedly being improperly stored. Tim Wagner asked if these are the only copy we have of these records. Staff noted that the Planning Department was digitizing its old documents and it would make sense for other departments to do the same. Tim Wagner asked if a third party could store documents temporarily. Chairman Clark said an inventory of documents needs to be completed first. Louise Osetek wants to talk with department heads to determine their situations with record storage. The commission discusses the importance of proper document and record storage.

Dave Robison gave an update on the Bellamy House tour.

Notes: Dave Robison gave an update on the Bellamy House tour.

Item 3: Minutes from June 8, 2021

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Louise Osetek and seconded by Dave Robison. Vote was 4 to 0 to approve.

Member	Approve	Deny	Abstain
Joshua Clark, Chair	X		
David Robison	X		
Louise Osetek	X		
Timothy Wagner	X		

Item 4: Adjournment

Motion was made by Dave Robison and seconded by Louise Osetek to adjourn. Vote was 4 to 0 to adjourn.

Member	Approve	Deny	Abstain
Joshua Clark, Chair	X		
David Robison	X		
Louise Osetek	X		
Timothy Wagner	X		

Meeting adjourned at 4:55